LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 26, 1968/Chaitra 6, 1890 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair] ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

श्री मोल्हू प्रसाद : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोवय : प्रश्न के सम्वन्ध में ?

श्री मोल्ह प्रसाद : जी हां।

यह प्रकिया में निर्धारित किया गया है कि किसी मैम्बर के नाम मे एक दिन में पांच प्रश्नों से अधिक प्रश्न स्वीकार नहीं किये जायेंगे । लेकिन आप देखें कि आज के अनारांकिन प्रश्नों में एक सदस्य के नाम से आठ प्रश्न स्वीकार किये गये है । मैं जानना चाहना हूं कि किस प्रकिया के अधीन यह किया गया है ? आपकी प्रश्न शाखा में या तो मूर्ख बसे हूं या बेईमान बसे है ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You may please write to me; I shall look into it.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Question No. 838.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRI-CULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVE-LOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) rose-

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs should reply, according to the question.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) :** have indicated that this question relates to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and that he will reply.

भी रवि राय : पहले से मालूम होना चाहिये था। कैसे इस तरह से ट्रांस्फर हो जाता है ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Somebody must reply on behalf of the Government.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : In future, they should be careful.

UNIFORMITY IN SPECIFICATIONS OF FOOD ARTICLES

*838. SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVE-LOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, I.S.I. and Agmark rules, different specifications have been laid down for spices and other products for certification;

(b) whether the difference in specifications causes difficulties to the trade;

(c) whether Government have considered the possibility of introducing uniformity in the specifications; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRI-CULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVE-LOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Due to specific demand of the importing countries in regard to certain varieties of black pepper, cardamom (chhoti illachi) and chillies, which are at present subject to Compulsory Quality Control before export under Agmark, some deviation was made in the grade specifications as compared to the standards laid under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. There is, however, no variation between ISI and Agmark grade specifications.

(b) No, Sir. It is rather the other way round as it was at the insistence of the trade that the deviation was made to enable them to export their commodities in accordance with the requirements of importing countries.

(c) There has always been uniformity in grade standards between Agmark and ISI, except in the above mentioned cases. The P.F.A. Act lays down the minimum standards from hygienic point of view and the same are always taken into consideration while laying down grades/specifications. In the cases referred to above, however, exemption from PFA Rules was given by the Ministry of Health.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : The Deputy Prime Minister referred a few days back to Montessori classes. Here is an example of the three departments undergoing Montessori training. They are taking decisions completely without any regard to the practical possibilities or considerations. The specifications laid down under the ISI and Agmark rules vary to a considerable extent from specifications under the PF Act. One of the illustrations is in regard to the chemical test. It so happens that the traders who comply with the ISI specifications are likely to violate the PFA specifications, thereby exposing themselves to deterrent penalties under the PF Act. This is a very peculiar case. What prevents the jovernment from simultaneously amending the PF Act if they thought it neces. sary to make certain amendments for the purpose of exports.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : In this particular case, the Health Ministry was consulted. There is no deviation whatsoever from the health point of view. The exporters brought to the notice of Government that some types of spices were acceptable to importing countries. The hon. Member is himself aware that the importing countries themselves have very rigid quality control over importing such materials. The traders pointed out that if they themselves were prepared to accept spices

exported by them, the Government should not come in the way. This was considered at the inter-ministerial meeting and with the concurrence of the ministries concerned, including the Health Ministry, this was done.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: My question is not replied to. They found it desirable to make certain changes in specifications for the purpose of exports. It is also understood that nobody is going to import anything which is bad from health point of view. But why not amend the Act simultaneously? Why cause unnecessary hardship?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Government is examining the position at this stage. The PF rules provide for exemption; there is already provision for exemption under the rules.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Due to certain difficulties experienced by the traders certain amendments about chemical testing were made and these were published in the Gazette of India 1966. So far no action has been taken in respect of those amendments. What stands in the way of the Government implementing those amendments which were made after due consideration of the difficulties of the traders?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : I have not come across any such cases other than the category of spices. Our agricultural marketing organisation would look into the suggestions.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: These rules about chemical testing and colour specification were all published in the Gazette. It is amazing that he is not aware of that. I want a specific reply. Will they take immediate action to implement it?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : They are examining it.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : There is no question of examination; they were published in the Gazette.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : What has been published has already been mentioned. The exemptions were made.

SHRI R. K. SINHA : In spite of specifications under the Act, there are

thousands of cases of adulteration in the cities and towns of India. Has the Government any plan to check this loss to the health of the country?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I am sorry; this is not coming under this.

श्री बलराज मधोक : यह प्रश्न किसी मंत्री को एडेस किया गया था और इंसका उत्तर शिन्दे साहब दे रहे हैं । वास्तव में हैल्थ मिनिस्टर का होना भी आवश्यक थी। कारण यह है कि यह एडल्ट्रेशन का मामला है केवल एक्सपोर्ट,स का मामला ही नहीं है। देश के अन्दर जो एडल्ट्रेशन भी हो रहा है उसके लिए कानून बनाया गया है जिसके मताबिक जो बड़े बड़े लोग है वे माल को भी टैस्ट करवाते रहते हैं और बन्द माल भी बेचते हैं। छोटे ट्रेडर्ज को वे माल बेचते हैं और जो माल ये छोटे ट्रेंडर्ज उनसे लाते हैं, जब टैस्ट करना होता है तो इन छोटे ट्रेडर्ज को पकड़ लिया जाता है । हैल्थ वाले कहते हैं कि यह स्पेसिफिकेशंज के अनुसार नहीं है। जो छोटा दूकानदार है वह कहता है कि उसने बडे देडर्ज से, होलसेलर से लिया है। लेकिन होलसेलर को पकडते नहीं जिससे माल ले कर छोटा ट्रेडर उसको बेचता है। दे आर बीइंग हैरास्ड लाइक एनीथिंग। इस प्रकार की बेइंतहा शिकायतें मेरे पास आई हैं। मेरे पास जो मैमोरंडम आए हैं उनको मैंने हैल्थ मिनिस्टरी के पास और आपके पास भेजा है। जो छोटे टेडर हैं. जो माल मैनुफैक्चर नहीं करते हैं, बडों से माल ले कर बैचते हैं, उनको हैरास करने की जो प्रक्रिया है उसको बन्द किया जाए और जो माल व सामान होता है उसका टैस्ट करने का प्रबन्ध क्या आप हर एरिया के अन्दर, हर तहसील के अन्दर, हर शहर के अन्दर करेंगे, वहां पर टैस्टिंग सैबोरेटरीज कायम करेंगे ताकि वे जो माल लायें वे पहले उसे टैस्ट करवा लें और फिर जनता को दें ? इस तरह से अगर किया गया तो उनका जो हैरासमेंट है वह बन्द हो संकता है। क्या आप इस पर विचार करेंगे?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): This question relates to specific deviations which were made in respect of certain categories of spices. If the hon. Member has any question in regard to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, he can address a specific question to the Health Ministry.

SHRI R. BARUA: If I understood the Ministers' reply aright, he said the classification for export purposes is different from what we find in the Food Adulterations Act. He also said that in spite of the variation, there is no health hazard in it. May I know whether such a variation may lead to more complications, unless the law is amended? What steps are Government going to take in this regard?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : I have already answered it.

UNREST IN HEAVY ENGINEERINO CORPORATION, RANCHI

*839. SHRI P. VENKATASUB-BAIH : Will the Minister of INDUST-RIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COM-PANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an official case study was made of the abnormal industrial unrest in the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVE-LOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: May I know whether it is a fact that in most of the public sector projects unfortunately, the highest executive, soon after taking charge, overnight finds that his relations or people coming from his State are qualified for the posts there, with the result that the States where those projects are located are denied the benefits of the employment potential created in that area resulting in great unrest? If so, what measures do Government propose to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): We have laid down a policy that with